

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner confirm consideration of the documents cited in the Information Disclosure Statements filed on August 26, 2005 and April 20, 2006 by initialing and returning the Forms PTO-1449 provided therewith.

Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-3, 6-10, 13-18, 21-23, and 30-34 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 6, 8, 13, 16, and 21 are the independent claims.

Claims 7 and 8 have been amended. No new matter is believed to have been added.

Claim 7 stands rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, as indefinite. Specifically, it is alleged that "the metes and bounds of the claimed invention cannot be determined due to two (2) instances of 'and/or'". By the present Amendment, Applicant has amended dependent claim 7 in view of the Examiner's comments. Applicant submits that claim 7 now even more fully satisfies the requirements of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112.

Claims 1-3, 6-10, 13-18, 21-23, and 30-34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,026,440 to Shrader et al. All rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, "a processing part configured to detect a password input error and to register information identifying the information processing apparatus by making a transmission to a first database of a registration center when the password input error is detected, and to store transmission log information related to the transmission to the registration center into said storage unit".

Independent claim 6 recites, *inter alia*, "a first database configured to register information identifying a first apparatus when notified of a password input error at the first apparatus, in response to a transmission from the first apparatus", "a second database configured to register the information identifying the first apparatus when the information identifying the first apparatus is requested by a second apparatus and the information identifying the first apparatus is registered in said first database, in response to a transmission from the second apparatus", and "a processing part configured to control registration of information to and deletion of information from said first database and said second database".

Independent claim 8 recites, *inter alia*, "detecting a password input error at the information processing apparatus", "registering information identifying the information processing apparatus by making a transmission to a first database of a registration center when the password input error is detected", and "storing transmission log information related to the transmission to the registration center within the information processing apparatus".

Independent claim 13 recites, *inter alia*, "registering information identifying a first apparatus in a first database when notified of a password input error at the first apparatus, in response to a transmission from the first apparatus", "registering the information identifying the first apparatus in a second database when the information identifying the first apparatus is requested by a second apparatus and the information identifying the first apparatus is registered in said first database, in response to a transmission from the second apparatus", and "controlling registration of information to and deletion of information from said first database and said second database".

Independent claim 16 recites, *inter alia*, "causing the computer to detect a password input error", "causing the computer to register information identifying the computer by making a transmission to a first database of the registration center when the password input error is detected", and "causing the computer to store in a storage unit transmission log information related to the transmission to the registration center".

Independent claim 21 recites, *inter alia*, "causing the computer to register information identifying a first apparatus in a first database when notified of a password input error at the first apparatus, in response to a transmission from the first apparatus", "causing the computer to register the information identifying the first apparatus in a second database when the information identifying the first apparatus is requested by a second apparatus and the information identifying the first apparatus is registered in said first database, in response to a transmission from the second apparatus", and "causing the computer to control registration of information to and deletion of information from said first database and said second database".

However, Applicant respectfully submits that the asserted citation fails to teach or suggest at least the aforementioned features of independent claims 1, 6, 8, 13, 16, and 21.

The Office Action rejects independent claims 1, 6, 8, 13, 16, and 21, contending that Shrader et al. teaches all of the features of the aforementioned claims. Specifically, the Office Action contends that Shrader et al. at Figs. 1, 4, and 5, at col. 4, lines 1-10 and lines 63-66, and at col. 5, lines 49-51 provides the necessary disclosure. This contention is respectfully traversed.

Shrader et al. relates to a Web server account manager plugin for monitoring resources.

However, Shrader et al. merely describes processes that are carried out on the Web server side (the "registration center" side). Absent from Shrader et al. is any teaching or suggestion of carrying out processes on the information processing apparatus side (the client side), as recited in the independent claims. Thus, Shrader et al. does not, for at least this reason, anticipate independent claims 1, 6, 8, 13, 16, and 21.

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 1, 6, 8, 13, 16, and 21 are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims patentably define the present invention over the citations of record. Further, the dependent claims should also be allowable for the same reasons as their respective base claims and further due to the additional features that they recite. Separate and individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes that the present Amendment is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner in the Official Action. However, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to such matters.

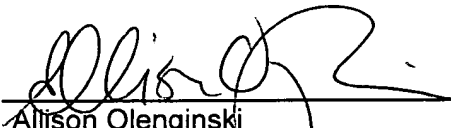
There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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